

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 IO-13
DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 STR-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 MCE-00 /121 W
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P R 061530Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2385
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1888

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ESTC, EEC, GR, NL
SUBJ: CARAMANLIS VISITS THE NETHERLANDS

1. GREEK PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS VISITED THE NETHERLANDS
APRIL 4-5, ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS AND
OTHERS. CARAMANLIS HELD TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER VAN AGT
AND FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER KLAUW, AND CALLED ON QUEEN
JULIANA. HE DEPARTED FOR ROME, TELLING JOURNALISTS THAT THE
RESULTS OF THE TALKS WERE SATISFACTORY.

2. CARAMANLIS CAME TO REENFORCE ALREADY KNOWN DUTCH SUPPORT FOR
GREEK EC MEMBERSHIP. AS MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR COMMENTED,
HE WAS "PREACHING TO THE CONVERTED". VAN AGT TOLD PRESS THAT GON
WOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO ENCOURAGE EC COMMISSION TO ISSUE ITS
NEGOTIATING RESPONSE BEFORE THE SUMMER SO THAT GREECE COULD BECOME
MEMBER BY 1980. CARAMANLIS INVITED VAN AGT TO VISIT ATHENS.

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3. MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR RUTTEN SAID THAT DUTCH HAD BEEN
SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY EMPHASIS CARAMANLIS PLACED UPON EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY AS PRIMARY WAY IN WHICH TO INSURE CONTINUED GREEK
TIES WITH WESTERN EUROPE. NATO WAS NOT MENTIONED AT ALL. DUTCH
REMAINED DISTURBED BY CONTINUED GREEK REFERENCE TO TECHNICAL
OBSTACLES TO GREEK MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNITY POSED BY EUROPEAN
COMMISSION. FACTS WERE THAT GREEKS SIMPLY DID NOT UNDERSTAND

OR CHOSE TO IGNORE SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS THAT GREEKS WOULD HAVE TO DEAL WITH IN CONNECTION WITH EC MEMBERSHIP. DUTCH FEARED THAT NEITHER GREEK NEGOTIATORS IN BRUSSELS NOR CARAMANLIS UNDERSTOOD WHAT MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNITY REALLY ENTAILED.

4. CARAMANLIS MADE NO PUBLIC COMMENT ON US PLANS TO LIFT ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY. ACCORDING TO MFA HE SPOKE PRIVATELY IN BITTER TERMS ABOUT U.S. PROPOSAL TO LIFT ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY. TIMING WAS INEXPLICABLE SINCE PREVIOUS POSITION OF U.S. CONGRESS WAS THAT THERE SHOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN CYPRUS BEFORE RESUMPTION OF ARMS SHIPMENT. CARAMANLIS TOLD DUTCH THAT TIMING OF U.S. POSITION WAS ALL THE MORE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND SINCE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT HAD PROMISED PROPOSALS ON TERRITORIAL ISSUES, WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE AND US GOVERNMENT BY ACTING NOW HAD IN GREEK VIEW LIFTED ONLY MEANS OF PRESSURE ON TURKEY IN THIS REGARD.
BROWN

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